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## **Sen. Allen sponsors legislation offering tax credits for food bank donations**

**LANSING** – To help stimulate donations to food banks across the state, Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, today introduced legislation granting tax credits to individuals making food donations.

“It shouldn’t matter if you are writing a check to a food bank or donating food directly to them,” Allen said. “You should receive a tax credit regardless, just as you do for donations to other charitable organizations.”

Under current law, taxpayers may receive a credit of up to \$100 (\$200 for married couples filing joint returns) for cash contributions made to homeless shelters, food kitchens and food banks. Donations of food items are currently not tax deductible.

Sponsored by Allen, Senate Bill 1415, expands the credit to include the value of food items donated to these organizations.

“When a constituent brought this to my attention, I was quite surprised to learn of this discrepancy in state law,” Allen said. “Food banks and other charitable organizations play a valuable role in our communities and we need to make sure nothing hampers individuals from making such donations.”

SB 1415 will be referred to a Senate committee on Tuesday.

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